EPA RadNet Precipitation Results
April 4, 2011

Statement on Results

Elevated levels of radioactive material in rainwater have been expected as a result of the nuclear incident after the events in Japan since radiation is known to travel in the atmosphere - precipitation data collected in several states show elevated levels of radiation in recent precipitation events. In all cases these are levels above the normal background levels historically reported in these areas. While short-term elevations such as these do not raise public health concerns – and the levels seen in rainwater are expected to be relatively short in duration – the U.S. EPA has taken steps to increase the level of monitoring of precipitation, drinking water, and other potential exposure routes to continue to verify that.

About the Data

EPA scientists routinely test precipitation samples from more than 30 sites in the U.S. The stations submit precipitation samples to the EPA lab as rainfall, snow or sleet occurs. Under routine circumstances, samples are composited and analyzed by EPA scientists monthly. In response to the Japanese nuclear incident, gamma analyses are being performed on the precipitation samples as they're received.
It may take up to five days for results because of the number of samples being directed to the laboratory. This is to ensure the proper analysis and quality assurance measures takes place before the results are released. EPA expects to see radioisotopes consistent with the Japanese nuclear incident during sample analysis. EPA expects the measured levels to be extremely low as this air mass disperses across our planet. All results are in picocuries per liter (pCi/L). A picocurie is one trillionth of a curie.

EPA RadNet Precipitation Concentration Measurement Data

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State	City	Date	Radionuclide (pCi/l)								
			Cs-134	Cs-136	Cs-137	I-131	I-132	I-133	Te-129	Te-129m	Te-132
AL	Montgomery	3/21/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
AL	Montgomery	3/24/2011	ND	ND	ND	16.7	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
CA	Richmond	3/15/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
CA	Richmond	3/22/2011	ND	ND	ND	138	ND	ND	ND	ND	5.96
CT	Hartford	3/18/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
CT	Hartford	3/25/2011	ND	ND	ND	26.0	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
GA	Atlanta	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
ID	Boise	3/22/2011	11.2	ND	11.6	242	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
KS	Kansas City	3/21/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
MA	Boston	3/18/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
MN	St. Paul	3/22/2011	ND	ND	ND	32.3	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
MN	Welch	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
NY	Albany	3/16/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
NY	Albany	3/23/2011	ND	ND	ND	30.0	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
OH	Painesville	3/15/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
OH	Painesville	3/25/2011	ND	ND	ND	46.8	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
OR	Portland	3/25/2011	ND	ND	ND	86.8	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/K	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/K	3/24/2011	ND	ND	ND	17.7	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/M	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/M	3/24/2011	ND	ND	ND	18.3	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/Y	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TN	Oak Ridge/Y	3/24/2011	ND	ND	ND	13.4	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
WA	Olympia	3/17/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
WA	Olympia	3/24/2011	ND	ND	ND	125	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

KEY: "ND" - radionuclide not detected.